

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR § 1.111
Application Number 10/642,502
Attorney Docket Q76035

IN THE ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE.

The enclosed substitute specification includes a corrected abstract of the disclosure, and the marked up version of the substitute specification shows the changes being made.

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A gradation patch image I_p used for determination of tone characteristics of an apparatus is progressively varied in the tone level thereof from the maximum tone level (level 255) to the minimum tone level (level 0). The gradation patch image is either a toner image continuously and consistently varied in the tone level thereof or a toner image having the tone levels varied stepwise at a smaller pitch than a width of a detection region of a patch sensor. In density detection of such a gradation patch image I_p , toner image densities at portions on either sides in the detection region of the patch sensor are canceled each other out by averaging and hence, only a toner image density substantially at the center of the detection region can be obtained.